

WESTVILLE FIRES PUT UP TO ITALIAN

Suspect Under Police Guard as He Lies in Hospital Bed

HAS BUCKSHOT WOUNDS

Burning of Homes Stops After Holding of Man on Arson Charge

Antonio Lagana, the Italian believed to have terrorized the village of Westville, N. J., by burning down three homes and partially destroying several more, was today held on a charge of arson. An armed guard now sits beside his bed at Cooper Hospital, Camden.

The warrant charges him with attempting to burn down the home of Webster Kripps, Westville.

Lagana is in the hospital suffering from buckshot wounds inflicted by Kripps. He has told the police several conflicting stories as to the manner in which the wounds were inflicted. Fearing that he may attempt to escape, Magistrate Leon Godfrey, of Woodbury, has ordered that he be guarded night and day.

According to Kripps the Italian started a fire under the kitchen porch of his home shortly after midnight. Kripps, who was standing guard with John Muskie, saw a man flee shortly after the blaze started and shot at him.

First Night's Rest in Ten Days Last night, for the first time in ten days, the inhabitants of Westville got their first night's undisturbed rest.

The similarity of the fires, especially the time when they were started, convinces the police that Lagana was responsible for all of the conflagrations. The incendiary set fire to the homes between midnight and 1 a. m. Three houses were burned down, three were partly demolished and several others were damaged during the activities of the "firebug."

Police declare that Lagana started his campaign of destruction for revenge against certain residents of the village. Detective Steinman said today that there is plenty of evidence against the Italian. On one occasion he was heard to declare that he would "clean out" the village.

Recently the Italian was discharged from a position with the railroad. Shortly after this he had difficulties with several Italians in the vicinity.

During Criminal The fire epidemic which visited Westville in one of the most daring ever recorded in the criminal annals of New Jersey.

The incendiary opened his campaign about ten days ago when he sent anonymous "Black Hand" letter to five residents telling them that within a week their homes would be burned unless they supplied him with sums ranging from \$100 to \$500. These threats were at first looked upon as an attempt at a practical joke. Then the epidemic of fires started.

Rags and shavings soaked in oil were placed under the porches of homes. These were ignited after midnight when the residents of the town were sleeping. In the first fires the victims barely escaped with their lives, losing all of their possessions in the blaze. As days progressed the incendiary became bolder. Twice he attempted to start two fires in a single night, first piling inflammable material under the porches and running from one house to the other to ignite the oil and wood.

Residents Guard Property For the last five days the residents of Westville have taken turns in sitting up with loaded guns to guard their property. Despite their vigilance the fires continued.

Kripps's description of the shooting of Lagana is as follows: "We were waiting for the firebug."

MIKE, THE "FERRY DOG," HOME AGAIN



Mike is a dog that has been familiar to thousands of Jersey commuters at the Delaware avenue and Market street ferry entrance for several years. On Wednesday agents of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals found Mike and promptly took him up in their net because he didn't wear a registered number. Now Mike is home again in his little house among the docks, safe with a magic number about his neck. Little Harry Joline, 1336 South Broad street, was willing to take his savings to save Mike from being put to death at the pound. He was one of several scores who offered to save Mike's life. Little Harry was at the riverfront to welcome the dog home.

EXPECT MAJOR GLENDINNING

Prominent Philadelphia Aviator Due in New York Today

Major Robert F. Glendinning, prominent Philadelphia aviator, is expected in New York today on the liner Aquitania. He is a pioneer in the study of aviation and has been overseas with the flying corps for more than a year. His mission in France was to establish and perfect the American aviation corps.

EMERGENCY AID APPEAL

Urges Funds to Buy Food for the Starving in France

With the receipt of a cablegram from Paris to the effect that there is intense suffering among the poor of France because of the lack of nutritious food, the food for France committee of the Emergency Aid has issued an appeal for funds to bring about speedy relief for these unfortunate people. The communication came from Mrs. Belle Armstrong Whitney, who is assisting with the distribution of the food in France through the French Service de Sante of the Ministry of War. Mrs. Tomman E. Grison, chief deputy of the committee in Pennsylvania, yesterday sent out notices to her co-workers calling upon them to redouble their efforts in the collection of funds.

During the last three months Mrs. Grison and her aids collected more than \$10,000 for the fund. All donations should be sent to Mrs. Grison at the headquarters of the Emergency Aid, 1438 Walnut street.

Nurses to Hold Benefit Ball

An entertainment and dance for the benefit of the West Philadelphia General Homeopathic Hospital will be given by the nurses of that institution at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Thirty-eighth and Market streets, this evening. Nurses who have been actively engaged in war work on the other side will be among the honored guests who have been invited.

MAYOR TO PROSECUTE IF WILL IS FORGERY

Hearing in Disputed Instrument Naming His Beneficiary Held Over

The person who forged the Menne-wich will, if forgery it proves to be, will be prosecuted, and Mayor Smith himself, the chief beneficiary, will urge District Attorney Rotan to bring the action. Francis M. McAdams, counsel for the Mayor, made this announcement yesterday. The attorney, however, is convinced the will is genuine, he admits.

This is the latest move in the Mayor's fight to get \$5000 which was left him by Herman Menne-wich, who died in the Philadelphia General Hospital on December 16 last. The bequest is dependent upon the genuineness of a letter and its signature in which Menne-wich left \$200 to a negro woman, Anetta Fullwood, who had befriended him, and the rest of the small property to the Mayor.

The Mayor has already announced he will give his share to charity if he gets the money. Opposing the Mayor are William Menne-wich, a half-brother, 1222 N. 45th and Mrs. Elizabeth Taylor, 5326 Rinehart street, a widowed sister with children.

The case came to a focus on Wednesday at a hearing before James Sheehan, Register of Wills, in which the Mayor's counsel encountered some difficulty in having Menne-wich's signature identified. The negro woman, as a test, copied the will and both the original and copy showed similarities.

"Do you believe the will is genuine?" Mr. McAdams was asked yesterday. "Well, that's a funny question to ask me," the lawyer answered, with a grin. "I am the Mayor's counsel. But if the Mayor is convinced the will is a forgery, he will turn over the whole matter to the District Attorney's office and ask for criminal prosecution."

At the next hearing, on March 17, the Mayor will explain the circumstances under which he received the letter said to be the will. Mrs. Fullwood yesterday denied that she had written the original will and added: "If I had written that will I would have given myself the \$5000 and Mr. Smith about nine cents."

She is a cook in the First Day Nursery, 2218 Lombard street, and came here from Pensacola, Fla.

END FUEL ADMINISTRATION

Federal Control for Pennsylvania Ceases Today

Today the federal fuel administration for Pennsylvania goes out of business, necessarily for the existence of the organization being at an end. State coal interests have "found themselves," according to William Potter, the Mayor, who is in charge of the control over natural gas in McKean, Potter and Tioga Counties. To those counties will be left the solution of their problem.

"Boosters" Hold Banquet

After-war conditions in the produce business were laid on the table for discussion at another meeting at the third annual banquet and anniversary dinner of the Boosters, held last night in the ballroom of the Bellevue-Stratford.

TYPEWRITERS

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URGES SUPPORT FOR WILSON

Judge Patterson Tells Churchmen They Must Disregard Party

Judge John M. Patterson, of Common Pleas Court, addressing 200 men in the Wharton Street Methodist Episcopal Church, Fifty-fourth and Catharine streets last night, called upon them to uphold President Wilson.

"Regardless of your party," said Judge Patterson, "it is your duty to uphold the President. Let us not call him names. We may differ in opinion regarding his plans and his views, but we must stand squarely and firmly behind him."

"Attacks on men in office go all the way down the line to the smallest city official. After a while people will begin to believe that something really is wrong with our form of government. That is what the Bolsheviks want. We don't want Bolshevism. Nor do we want the continuance of the attacks on our national and city officials. Just stand up for them. The public put them in office and it is up to the public to back them. Let's all get together and make the Keystone state greater than the ever was."

The Rev. W. E. P. Haas, pastor, also made a brief address. His topic was "The Need of a Thousand-Fold Man." That is what the Bolsheviks want. We don't want Bolshevism. Nor do we want the continuance of the attacks on our national and city officials. Just stand up for them. The public put them in office and it is up to the public to back them. Let's all get together and make the Keystone state greater than the ever was.

PLAN TO CURB AUTO THEFTS

Legislative Committee Meets Here to Discuss Remedial Laws

A meeting to discuss plans to combat automobile thieving and to form plans of automobile legislation will be held by the Subcommittee of the Judiciary Local Committee of the House at the City Hall this afternoon.

Among the bills to be discussed is one by Representative Cox which governs the sale of automobiles and provides for easier methods of identification. Another, sponsored by Representative Ephraim, would provide severe penalties for the theft of machines.

The committee is composed of Clinton Sowers, Leopold Glass, Samuel Ephraim, Julius J. Lewis, Edwin R. Cox and Maria M. Hollingsworth. The committee has invited Mayor Smith, William H. Wilson, Director of Public Safety; Captain Souder, of the Detective Bureau; James Robinson, superintendent of police, and representatives of various automobile interests.

NEW CHARTER BILL READY

Full Revision Committee Will Consider Measure Today

The charter revision bill, which is to be introduced in the Legislature on Monday, will be submitted by the subcommittee in the full charter revision committee for its approval this afternoon at the Chamber of Commerce.

Abolition of many municipal evils is provided for in the measure, which urges a single councilman's chamber of nineteen, establishment by the city of a own street-cleaning bureau and other reforms calculated to effect economy in the administration of the municipal government and maintenance of the city generally.

ENGLISH CHICKEN DINNER 75c. Sunday 1 to 3:30. Soup, Hash, Potatoes, Buttered Steaks, Creamed Onions, Coffee, Bread and Butter, choice of delicious Homemade Desserts. 35-37 South 16th.

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A Good Buy For Men are these Cord-Tan Shoes specially priced for tomorrow and Monday at seven-ninety. Fashioned on English last, with narrow or medium toe, they combine both ultra style and comfort, — and are well worth ten dollars and more. All sizes are available. \$7.90

\$25 Wind-Up Sale! Reminders of Winter Overcoats and of Fall and Winter Suits that were big values all season at \$40, \$38, \$35 and \$30, to be closed out in their last and Final Wind-Up Sale at the One Uniform Price, \$25!

This is one big opportunity to get a bargain in a Winter Overcoat or Suit. We see no immediate prospect of greater or better values for next season than we were able to give you for this. And that's the point exactly—the bigness of these values at their regular all-season prices in this store. You can save five to fifteen dollars in this sale, and know that you've got the very best values in a Suit or Overcoat that \$25 will buy you for some time to come.

- \$40 Overcoats for.....\$25
\$38 Overcoats for.....\$25
\$35 Overcoats for.....\$25
\$30 Overcoats for.....\$25

- \$40 Suits for.....\$25
\$38 Suits for.....\$25
\$35 Suits for.....\$25
\$30 Suits for.....\$25

Overcoats in double-breasted models and in single-breasted models—Usters, Storm Coats—full silk-lined Oxfords, conservatives and fashionables.

Suits of worsteds, cassimeres, chevots in a good range of colors and cloth patterns—heavy weights and medium weights that a man can wear well into the Summer time—remainders of \$40, \$38, \$35 and \$30 Overcoats and Suits, at—

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